that came up for discussion were Tin Bigha, sharing of River Waters, Chakma refugees and illegal immigration. It was agreed that it was in the mutual interest of both countries to further strengthen bilateral relations by resolving the outstanding issues and by adopting a positive approach for enhancing economic cooperation in further.

S.T.D. Facility in Calicut Telecome Division

6962. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN: Will the minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone Exchanges under the Calicutt Telecommunication Division propose to be provided with S.T.D. facility during 1991-92; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Five telephone exchanges were proposed to be provided with S.T.D. facility in Calicut Secondary Switching Area during 1991-92. Out of these Balussery has already been provided with S.T.D. facility. Vengara, Tirurandari & Edapal of Mallapuram district and Kadalund of Calicut district are planned to be provided with STD facility during 1991-92.

Fish Disease in Backwaters of Kerala

6963. PROF. K.V.THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantiry of fish in the backwaters of Kerala is perishing due to some disease;

(b) whether any study has been made to find out the cause of this disease;

(c) if so, the findings thereof and the assistance given by Union Government to Kerala to control this epidemic; and

(d) the compensation given to the fishermen who have suffered heavy loss due to this epidemic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Government of Kerala recently informed that fishes in the Vembanad lake have been affected with an unknown disease.

(b) and (c). Fish disease experts from the Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Instt. Barrackpore and Central Instt. of Brackish Water Agriculture, Madras have been deputed to Kerala to undertake detailed investigations and to suggest remedial measures. The investigations are in progress.

(d) There is no scheme for providing compensation.

Irrigation Bonds for Completion of Irrigation Projects in Karnataka

6964. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sought the permission of the Union Government to float irrigation bonds in order to mobilise resources for the completion of ongoing irrigation projects in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, sir.